

Public Affairs Section Newsletter

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Programs at the American Center

- Information Resource Center staff to conduct Internet Training on Africa Growth & Opportunity Act information sources September 2005
- Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation Grant Signing Ceremony. September 8, 2005
- Democracy & Human Rights Fund Grant Signing Ceremony. September 13, 2005
- The Annual HIV/AIDS Journalism Contest will open for submissions in September. Awards will be presented to coincide with World AIDS Day on December 1, 2005



Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebream

Greetings from the Public Affairs Officer

On behalf of my colleagues at the Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Embassy, I wish to extend warm greetings. I want you to know how excited we are about introducing our first newsletter. The objectives of this quarterly newsletter are: to inform our partners of important educational and cultural programs, to share literary reflections and highlight shared values, and to announce upcoming events of interest.

The Public Affairs Section has, over several decades, provided educational, cultural, and information services aimed at strengthening partnerships between Americans and Zambians. To this end, we support important areas of interest to our two countries, such as health, democracy, economic growth, and security. American and Zambian Fulbright program participants, and Zambian Humphrey Fellows, and International Visitor Leadership Program participants are selected to advance these four areas of interest. Additionally, we encourage and support cultural programs.

Recently, we brought to Lusaka an art exhibition, "Two American Icons," "Jacob Lawrence and Lois Mailou Jones: Two American Legends" featuring 23 works by Jacob Lawrence -- one of America's most prominent African-American artists, and 8 of Lois Mailou Jones prints -- a leading female African-American artist who traveled extensively and painted in Africa. The pictures depict in stylized fashion life in America with African-American themes, including elections, religious services, youth, and sports. The exhibit was housed at the Lusaka National Museum for about three weeks and drew about 1000 adults and school children.

Through the efforts of our Public Diplomacy Officer, Laura Gritz, Moto Moto Museum in Mbala will receive a grant of \$20,048 from the Ambassador's Cultural Preservation Fund, a U.S. Congress supported program aimed at preserving local historical and cultural sites and artifacts in partnering countries. Moto Moto Museum will use the funds to identify, document, and preserve Zambian slave route sites, places of memory, and monuments.

I hope you will find our newsletter useful and I invite you to give us feedback. Most importantly, we would like to hear about topics that you would like to see covered in the newsletter.

Ambassador Martin Brennan and Mrs. Giovanna Brennan Bid Farewell to Zambia

After serving nearly three years in Zambia, Ambassador Martin Brennan came to the end of his

posting, and returned to the United States of America in July. During the official reception to commemorate America's Independence Day, Ambassador Brennan stated his regret in having to leave Zambia, but



Ambassador Brennan & wife Giovanna

also said his family "...shall cherish the many kindnesses bestowed upon us, and will value the wisdom shared by our Zambian mentors from all walks of life."

Ambassador Brennan also challenged all those at the event to continue working hard for the progress he had witnessed over his tenure.

"Zambia is poised at a crossroads. The road to a more just and prosperous life can be steep and rocky. One can easily drift to more familiar, comfortable paths that lead to corrupt practices, questionable elections, ballooning budgets and opaque governance. This would be tragic."

Returning to America after having served the United States' Government around the world, Ambassador Brennan will take on the prestigious post as a Diplomat in Residence, which means a diplomatic official who tours at universities to encourage students to apply for a career in the foreign service.

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Supports a Workshop for 60 Zambian journalists

Under the PEPFAR program, the U.S. Embassy, through its Public Affairs Section (PAS) supported a month-long training session for journalists on how to effectively report on HIV and AIDS. The training opened on July 25 with the first group of 30 electronic and print media journalists drawn from around the country, lasting two weeks. The second group of 30 was trained from August 8 -18. Participants re-

ceived classroom training on subjects that included how to research, interview, and write stories the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Through fieldwork in selected communities, they



Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebreamu officially opens the training sessions.

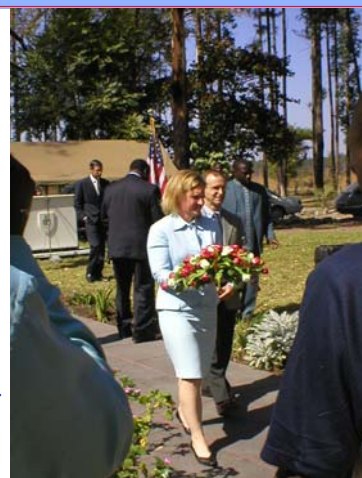
interacted with people infected with HIV and witnessed some efforts being made to assist them as well as challenges faced.

With HIV/AIDS being such an important issue, especially so in Zambia, PAS hopes that this training provided the journalists with the tools to communicate in effective ways that will call for action in fighting the pandemic.

Granddaughter Remembers Fallen Hero

On June 14, Ambassador Martin Brennan visited the crash site in Ndola where United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld perished in 1961, along with fifteen others of multiple nationalities, while traveling on a peace mission from the Congo. At the Ambassador's invitation, American Citizen Lee Goldman, granddaughter of American crash

victim Heinrich Wieschhoff, traveled to Zambia from the U.S. to be the first in her family to visit the crash site. Mr. Wieschhoff was working as Dag Hammarskjöld's adviser on African affairs. Copperbelt Provincial Minister, Chilufya Kazenene, attended the ceremony, which included a Zambian military band and a choir from a local school. Mrs. Goldman laid a wreath in honor of her grandfather. Ambassador Brennan and Mrs. Goldman unveiled a memorial stone.



Mr. & Mrs. Goldman at the Crash Site

“Two American Icons” Featured at the Lusaka National Museum

The paintings of two well known African-American artists, Jacob Lawrence and Lois Mailou Jones, were featured at a free exhibition at the Lusaka National Museum at the end of June.

The Embassy of the United States of America sponsored the exhibition of these renowned artists in the hope of increasing international understanding through the arts.

The paintings are making their way throughout Africa with Zambia being its fifth stop. The official opening generated a large amount of interest from the public

and those in the arts community.

Former Ambassador Martin Brennan officially opened the exhibit and spoke



Former U.S. Ambassador to Zambia Mr. Brennan & Mr. Miko

about the importance art has played in American history and throughout the world. He said, “The music, poetry and art of the Harlem Renaissance transcended the bounds of one place or one race to speak to all of us, Americans and millions of others around the globe. The genius of Jacob Lawrence and Lois Mailou Jones became more than ‘black culture’ to become part of the American culture.”

The Ambassador also commended the work of the exhibit’s curator, Mr. William B. Miko, a well-known Zambian artist, who had himself traveled to the U.S. twelve years ago under the auspices of a U.S. Department of State for a cultural exchange program over a decade ago.

American Corner Opened on the Copperbelt

Residents on the Copperbelt can take pride in hosting the first American Corner in Zambia, which opened at the Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation (MEF). Former Ambassador to Zambia Mr. Martin Brennan with Provincial Minister Chilufya Kazenene and Director of MEF Reverend Canon Charley Thomas officially opened the Corner on June 14 this year.

An American Corner is a resource center

designed for any one who wants to learn more about American society and culture. The Embassy has provided equipment and materials which include collections of books,



Embassy staff in the American Corner

periodicals and other information materials including videos.

The Corner will offer student advising sessions and various programs on a wide range of pertinent issues with guidance from the Embassy.



Chris Annear with PDO Laura Gritz & MEF Director Rev. Canon Charley Thomas sharing ideas.

First American Corner Programming

Former Fulbright researcher Chris Annear, traveled from Kashikishi, Luapula province, where he is based, to share his research findings on some of the Lunda communities living on the shores of Lake Mweru. The audience, which comprised MEF Director Rev. Canon Charley Thomas, Public Diplomacy Officer Laura Gritz, other U.S. Embassy staff, and students from MEF and other surrounding colleges, heard how people in villages would like to develop their communities rather than return to towns where most of them lived and worked until they retired. In fact, most of them opt to return to develop their villages. Unfortunately, the current infrastructure does not support such development. The lively discussion, combined with clips of Zambian music, brought a lot of issues to the fore. Participants requested that programs of this nature be encouraged in the American Corner and should target policy makers and the general public.

Public Affairs Section Empowers Libraries

The Information Resource Center (IRC) was filled with large boxes of books when three institutions received books at a large book presentation conducted by the Public Affairs Officer, Dehab Ghebream, on June 27.

The Media Institute of Southern Africa Zambia Chapter was one of the recipient institutions that benefited from a core

collection of books to be placed in the MISA Library. The presentation, comprising titles that most media libraries cannot afford to provide, was received by MISA Chairperson Mr. Kellys Kaunda



Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebream presents books to Mr. Kaunda. Looking on is Yvonne Chona—IRC staff

who is also VOA correspondent in Zambia. Mr. Kaunda stated his appreciation, and reiterated the MISA Zambia's commitment to improve the qual-

ity of journalism in the country. "This book donation is timely and a fulfillment of MISA's vision to acquire resources that will improve media standards in the country."

Other beneficiaries included the newly commissioned Zambia Open University and the National Science Center. Speaking at the same function, Public Affairs Officer Dehab Ghebream encouraged recipients to make the resources accessible to as many people as possible.

Journalists and academics had a feel of IRC resources such as the Internet and reference books.

Zambia Business Forum and the Zambia National Tourist Board Receive Donation

The U.S. Government donated vehicles, computers and office furniture worth K600 million to the Zambia Business Forum (ZBF) and the Zambia National Tourist Board (ZNTB). The ceremony transferring ownership to these two key business institutions took place at the ZBF secretariat premises, on May 12, 2005.

The donation to the ZBF consists of two four-wheel drive vehicles, com-

puters, photocopiers, and office furniture. These items are part of a multi-donor arrangement to develop a full-time ZBF secretariat.

The donation, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), will strengthen the ZBF as Zambia's premier business organization and are expected to facilitate ZBF's policy dialogue with the Government of Zambia.

USAID also donated computers, printers, and photocopiers to the ZNTB to help further the "Visit Zambia Campaign 2005." The U.S. Government believes these two organizations – one private and one public - are important partners to promote private sector growth in Zambia.

Zambian Wins Worldwide Library Award



Matilda Sakala receives Leadership Award from SLA President Ethel Salonen in Toronto, Canada

The Zambia Library Association was represented at the recent Special Libraries Association Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada. This was done through the American Center Library Director Matilda Sakala, who was awarded the Leadership Diversity Development Award during the conference. Matilda has been recognized for providing leadership skills in the development and promotion of library activities at national and regional levels. In addition, Matilda has been involved in outreach work through programs offered and supported by the American Embassy. Most of these programs involve vulnerable groups such as street kids at Fountain of Hope Library and women from diverse groups within the Zambian community.

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We are on the Web

<http://zambia.usembassy.gov>

Mission of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library/

Information Resource Center

The mission of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library/Information Resource Center is to provide accurate and timely information about the United States, its policies, practices and society to officials of government and non-government agencies, researchers, academics, business people and all others who need or want information.

Library hours: Monday 08:30—12:30 hours

Tuesday 08:30—12:30 hours

13:30—16:30 hours

Friday 08:30—12:00 hours

Both American and Zambian holidays are observed.

Useful sites on U.S. Government:

-The White House: <http://www.whitehouse.gov>

-Economic data, Bureau of Labor & Statistics: <http://stats.bls.gov>

-Foreign Press Center: <http://fpc.state.gov>

-Voice of America: <http://www.voanet.com>

Electronic Journals On-line

Electronic Journals of the U.S. Department of State

Bureau of International Information Programs (IIP)

IIP publishes five electronic journals (*Economic Perspectives*, *U.S. Foreign Policy Agenda*, *U.S. Society & Values*, *Global Issues*, and *Issues of Democracy*) with a new journal in one of the series appearing each month. French, Portuguese, and Spanish translations of all journals appear from two to four weeks after the English, and certain journals are translated into Arabic and Russian. Hypertext versions of the journals appear on our web site in [English](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), and [Russian](#). In addition, the journals are available for download in

Adobe Acrobat format. (Adobe Acrobat is an excellent tool for viewing and printing formatted files on practically every kind of computer and operating system. Click [here](#) to go to Adobe's Acrobat page, where you can download it free.) Finally, most language versions are available in zipped ASCII or zipped ANSI format; Russian texts are available in zipped Win1251 and zipped

If you wish to get a hard copy of an Electronic Journal please call 227993/4. You will be referred to the Library for advice.



Latest Electronic Journal on American Teenagers available in the Library/Information Resource Center. The Journal is useful to the Youth in Zambia.